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ar·bi·trar·y • [ahr-bi-trer-ee] Pronunciation Key - Show IPA Pronunciation adjective, noun, plural -trar-les.

-adjective

- 1. subject to individual will or judgment without restriction; contingent solely upon one's discretion: an arbitrary decision.
- 2. decided by a judge or arbiter rather than by a law or statute.
- 3. having unlimited power; uncontrolled or unrestricted by law; despotic; tyrannical: an arbitrary government.
- 4. capricious; unreasonable; unsupported: an arbitrary demand for payment.
- 5. Mathematics. undetermined; not assigned a specific value: an arbitrary constant.

6. arbitraries, Printing. (in Britain) PECULIAR (def. 9).

[Origin: 1400-50; late ME < L arbitrārius uncertain (i.e., depending on an arbiter's decision). See ARBITER, -ARY

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ar · bi · trar · i · ly 😻 🥨 [ahr-bi-trer-uh-lee, ahr-bi-trair-] Pronunciation Key -Show IPA Pronunciation, adverb ar·bi·trar·i·ness, noun

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ar·bi·trar·y 😻 🤻 (är'bĭ-trĕr'ē) Pronunciation Key

adj.

1. Determined by chance, whim, or impulse, and not by necessity, reason, or principle: stopped at the first motel we passed, an arbitrary choice.

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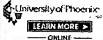
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- 2. Based on or subject to individual Judgment or preference: The dlet imposes overall calorie limits, but daily menus are arbitrary
- 3. Established by a court or judge rather than by a specific law or statute: an arbitrary penalty.
- 4. Not limited by law; despotic: the arbitrary rule of a dictator.

[Middle English arbitrarie, from Latin arbitrarius, from arbiter, arbitr-, arbiter, see arbiter.]

ar'bi·trar'i·ly (-trâr'a-lē) adv., ar'bi·trar'i·ness n.

Synonyms: These adjectives mean determined by or arising from whim or caprice rather than judgment or reason: an arbitrary decision; a capricious refusal; a whimsical remark.

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1424 (in arbitrament), "deciding by one's own discretion," from L. arbitrarius, from arbiter (see arbiter). The original meaning gradually descended to "capricious" (1646) and "despotic" (1642).

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adiective

based on or subject to individual discretion or preference or sometimes impulse or caprice; "an arbitrary decision"; "the arbitrary rule of a dictator"; "an arbitrary penalty"; "of arbitrary size and shape"; "an arbitrary choice"; "arbitrary division of the group into halves" [ant: nonarbitrary]

WordNet® 3.0, © 2006 by Princeton University.

Kernerman English Multilingual Dictionary (Beta Version) - Cite This Source - Share This arbitrary ['a: bitreri] adjective

not decided by rules or laws but by a person's own opinion Example: He made a rather arbitrary decision to close the local cinema without consulting other people.

إعْنْباطى تُسَنَّفي، تُحَكِّمي :Arabic

Chinese (Simplified): 任意的

Chinese (Traditional): 武斷的, 任意的

Czech: svévolný

Danish: vilkårlig; arbitrær

Dutch: willekeurig

Estonian: omavoliline

Finnish: mlelivaltainen

French: arbitraire

German: willkürlich

Japanese:随意の

Korean:제멋대로의, 독단

적인

Latvian: patvalīgs

Lithuanian: savavališkas

Norwegian: vilkårlig;

egenrådig Polish: arbitralny

Portuguese (Brazil): arbitrário Portuguese (Portugal): arbitrário

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Greek: αυθαίρετος Hungarian: önkényes Icelandic: geðþóttalegur, geðþótta-

Indonesian: keputusan sendiri

Italian: arbitrario

Romanian: arbitrar Russian:произвольный Slovak: svojvoľný Slovenian: samovoljen Spanish: arbitrario Swedish: godtycklig, egenmäktig Turkish: keyfi

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Merriam-Webster's Dictionary of Law - Cite This Source - Share This

Main Entry: ar · bi · trary Pronunciation: 'ar-be-'trer-B

Function: adjective

1: depending on individual discretion (as of a judge) and not fixed by standards, rules, or law <the manner of punishment is arbitrary>

2 a : not restrained or limited in the exercise of power <an arbitrary government> b : marked by or resulting from the unrestrained exercise of power protection from arbitrary arrest and detention>

3 a: based on preference, bias, prejudice, or convenience rather than on reason or fact <an arbitrary standard> <different provisions for the married and the unmarried were irrational and arbitrary -K. A. Cohen> b: existing or coming about seemingly at random or by chance or as an unreasonable act of individual will without regard for facts or applicable law -often used in the phrase arbitrary and capricious <an agency finding or conclusion of lack of evidence would be arbitrary and capricious if the record afforded no substantial basis for such a finding -Irvin v. Hobby, 131 Federal Reporter Supp. 851 (1955)>

NOTE: Under section 706 of the Administrative Procedure Act, a court shall set aside an agency's action, findings, or conclusions determined upon review to be arbitrary. -ar·bi·trar·i·ly /'ar-be-'trer-e-le/ adverb -ar·bi·trar·l·ness /'Ar-be-"trer-E-nes/ noun

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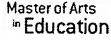
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